

204

A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE DEGREE OF
INVOLVEMENT OF THE FOSTER FATHER IN
THE FAMILY AFTER CHILDREN ARE
PLACED IN THE HOME

A THESIS SUBMITTED
TO THE FACULTY OF ATLANTA UNIVERSITY IN
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

BY

MAE FRANCES JOHNSON

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

MAY 1967

R ✓ T 49

6403-13

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DEDICATION	ii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	iii
LIST OF TABLES	v
Chapters	
I. INTRODUCTION	1
Significance of Study	
The Why and Needs of Foster Children	
Meeting the Needs of the Neglected	
Child: The Foster Family	
The Significance of the Father and His Role	
in our Changing Society	
Purpose of Study	
Review of Literature	
Method of Procedure	
Scope and Limitation	
Relevance to Social Work	
II. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF FOSTER	
CARE PROGRAM AT THE LEAKE AND WATTS CHILDREN'S	
HOME	22
III. PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA	25
IV. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	39
APPENDIX	43
BIBLIOGRAPHY	47

DEDICATION

To my parents, Rev. and Mrs. Jessie Johnson.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is with gratitude that I express my indebtedness to persons who helped make this research project possible.

The Leake and Watts Children's Home granted me permission to conduct the study and made the needed data available to me. Miss Maybelle Cotton, Field Supervisor, was a constant source of encouragement to me, and for this I extend to her sincere thanks.

Special thanks are also given to the foster parents who responded, because without their participation, the completion of this research project would have not been possible.

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. Age Distribution of Natural Children	26
2. Age Distribution of Foster Children	27
3. Distribution of Foster Fathers By Age	28
4. Distribution of Foster Fathers By Occupations	29
5. Distribution of Foster Fathers By Stability of Their Employment	30
6. Number of Days of the Week Foster Fathers are Employed	31
7. Number of Hours Foster Fathers Work Per Day	32
8. Distance Traveled By Foster Fathers to and From Place of Employment	33
9. Time Allotted for Traveling to and From Place of Employment	33
10. Activities Engaged in and Responsibilities to Foster Children and Agency as Mentioned By Foster Fathers	34
11. Community Involvement Outside of Employment and Agency Obligations as Listed By Foster Fathers	37

INTRODUCTION

Significance of Study

The care aspect of foster care, recently, has come under attack. Attention has been focused on this aspect of foster care, because the foster home population is becoming smaller and smaller, and the increasing complex problems experienced by children placed, raise the question of whether the foster homes that are available can provide adequately for the child.

The writer was placed in an agency which offered foster care services, and became very concerned about the adequacy of foster homes selected and also the methods used to select foster homes. The writer had the feeling that very little was known about the interacting between family members and the effect of family balance on the growing foster child. The importance of having both parents in the foster home was emphasized in theory but not in practice. Looking at the foster families, the writer viewed the foster father as a shadow, standing in the background allowing the family process to go on without him. It was evident that the foster mother was considered as the dominant figure in the family and the foster father, the passive personality.

However, the need for the foster father to provide a wholesome atmosphere for the maximum physical and emotional growth of the foster child was continuously verbalized. It appeared as if

verbal convictions of the need for the foster father overshadowed the reality situation as it existed within the foster family structure.

Over the past twenty years we have deepened our understanding of the problems of the placed child. We are able to see in a more discriminating way the relationship between a child's life experiences and the development of serious personality difficulties. The understanding of foster parents, however, has not grown at the same pace as the understanding of children living in foster homes.¹ Although the practice of foster family care has a long history, discriminating understanding of it is only in its infancy.²

The Why and Needs of Foster Children

Children need care away from their own families either because their parents are unable, for a short or long period of time, to provide for them at home or with their relatives, or because of the child's own problems which cannot be satisfactorily treated without removal from the home.³

". . . We must face the fact that there are thousands of children in care for whom there is a family in name only and for whom the parents, because of their own irremediable inadequacies, will

¹Elizabeth A. Lawder, "Toward A More Scientific Understanding of Foster Family Care," Child Welfare, Vol. XLIII, No. 2, February, 1964, p. 57.

²Ibid., p. 63.

³"When to Use A Child Caring Institution," Social Service Outlook, Vol. 1, No. 4, September, 1966, p. 16.

never be able to function fully. Therefore, for thousands of children, foster care is preferable to their being in their own homes for there simply is no home and no possibility of one."⁴ The number of children in foster family homes on March 31, 1965 was estimated at 207,800, at a rate of 2.9 per 1,000 children will be living in foster family homes, a forty-five per cent increase over 1965 or an annual increase of about four per cent.⁵ If this trend continues, we should anticipate an increasing number of children in foster family care, both public and private, and possibly a shift from institutional care to foster family care.

It is apparent that the social situations which led to the placement of children some two decades ago are no longer responsible for children coming into placement today. The Federal funds provided through social welfare services has siphoned off all but the most socially inefficient parents. These parents come from grossly pathological situations, and have done such a poor job of providing wholesome family experiences for their offsprings that these children who make up the bulk of those awaiting long term care actually have special needs.⁶

⁴Henry S. Maas, Children in Need of Parents (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1959), p. 389.

⁵Seth Low, "Foster Care of Children: Major National Trends and Prospects," Welfare in Review, Vol. 4, No. 8, October, 1966. pp. 12-13.

⁶Mary Huff Diggs, "Sociological Implications of Long Term Foster Care," Child Welfare, Vol. XL, No. 9, November, 1961, p. 23.

The needs of children coming into foster care cannot be compared with those of natural children who are able to remain in their home although it is disorganized. The children coming into foster care are damaged because of the lack of emotional and physical security. Because there have been no definite and enduring parent figures present in the child's life in relation to whom the child could first develop and then resolve his feelings, he will either fail to develop the capacity for attachments, develop fragmentary ones, or evolve the attachments with fantasy figures.⁷ Where no enduring and consistent parent figures have existed in a child's life, treatment at its best is difficult and often impossible. We can see from this that providing the needs of the foster child is not an easy task. We live in a world of two sexes, and the consistent presence of both parents, male and female, is very important. A child grows emotionally by virtue of the evolution of his relationships to the meaningful people in his life. These people are ordinarily his parents, but the parents are not always present.

Meeting the Needs of the Neglected Child:
The Foster Family

In many instances when a family cannot provide for a child adequately, a substitute family, when appropriate, is found so that the child may have the advantage of a more normal social and community relationship than an institution is able to provide.⁸ We

⁷"When to Use a Child Caring Institution," op. cit., p. 16.

⁸Ibid.

have come to realize that it is because a young child is not an organism capable of independent life that he requires a special social institution to aid him during the period of immaturity. This institution is the family. I guess one could say that a natural child with only one parent experiences some of the same problems and wonders what makes the difference. Many parents are failures, we must admit. Nevertheless, there are those who manage to sustain their homes, and a child who lives within his own home always has a different community standing and feeling of being loved and wanted than a child in an institution or foster home would experience.

The family, in its efforts to meet the needs of the child, must aid him in two main ways: first, by helping in the satisfaction of immediate biological needs such as nutrition, warmth and shelter, and protection from danger; secondly, by providing a milieu in which he may develop his physical, mental and social capacities to the fullest so that, when grown up, he may be able to deal with his physical and social environment effectively. This demands an atmosphere of affection and security.⁹

The field of Child Welfare attempts to meet the needs of these children by providing institutional care when needed; adoptive parents for adoptions and selective foster homes for temporary care. As defined by the Child Welfare League of America, foster family care is the Child Welfare service which provides substitute family care for a planned period for a child when his own family cannot care for him

⁹John Molby, Maternal Care and Mental Health (Geneva: World Health Organization, 1952), p. 72.

for a temporary or extended period, and when adoption is neither desirable nor possible.¹⁰ The foster family is said to offer the child who would otherwise lack adequate parental care and who cannot remain in his own home a closer approximation to normal family living than other types of substitute care. It is particularly adapted to meet the child's normal developmental needs in a family-centered society.¹¹

In selecting foster homes, emphasis is placed on several dependent factors. These are some of the attributes of parents considered:

1. They are emotionally mature.
2. Their marriage is solid.
3. They participate in the life of the community where they live.
4. They are adaptable.
5. They know children.¹²

The Child Welfare League of America also sets forth standards for Foster Family Care Service. In relation to the interest of the researcher, it is interesting to note what is said in reference to family composition in article four and five.

It is desirable for the foster family to include two parents, in order to provide maximum opportunities for personality development. The presence of other children

¹⁰Standards for Foster Family Care Service (New York: Child Welfare League of America, 1959), p. 5.

¹¹Ibid., p. 3.

¹²Kathleen Cassidy Doyle, Homes for Foster Children (New York: Public Affairs Committee, 1955), p. 13.

in the home, either own or foster should be taken into account as they may be affected by or have affect upon another child.¹³

As reflected in the attributes listed and the statement in reference to family composition, we are aware of the important part both parents play in the development of healthy personalities in either boys or girls. We are also aware that the basic needs of every child is an environment which included both parents--parents whose interest and attention supply the love, confidence, and guidance so necessary to the development of a normal child.¹⁴ By and large, the father's role is considered a social, rather than a biological one. The father's functions generally include the following: (1) he protects both mother and child, provides them with the necessities of life, and fights for their safety against dangers from the outside world if that is necessary; (2) he trains the male child for a masculine role in the community, and sets a pattern of masculinity for the male child; (3) he often, but not always, is a link between his family and society.¹⁵ In foster care agencies special efforts are put forth in choosing good foster parents who will be able to provide what has been missing in the foster child's life. In selecting foster parents, special attention is given to make sure that the foster home situation is not the same as the natural home situation. The presence of both parents is foremost in mind.

¹³Loc. cit., p. 35.

¹⁴Henrietta L. Gordon, Casework Services for Children (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1956), p. 13.

¹⁵The Significance of the Father (New York: Family Service Association of America, 1959), p. 31.

In this study the researcher is primarily concerned with the father's role in the foster family and the role he assumes after foster children are placed in the home. In many foster care agencies both parents are expected to attend prospective foster parent meetings and both parents are expected to participate in the home study. The researcher feels that the father's participation during the preliminary stages of becoming foster parents is one of necessity, influenced greatly by the female figure in the home. It is not felt that this participation or involvement accurately reflects what happens after children are placed.

In most foster care agencies, there are no set procedures by which home studies are done. Nevertheless, the foster home study in all instances should reveal a picture of the family as separate individuals as well as an interacting family group. If a home is approved, the study should reveal a family of good character, adequate intelligence, stable interpersonal relations (especially in marriage), reliable employment history of the husband, interest in and capacity to give good parental care to children, and capacity to work with the agency on behalf of the child and in his relationship with his parents.¹⁶ However, this is not always true and there are many reasons for this.

For several years the field of Child Welfare has been bogged down in its own ambivalence about whether the foster parent was a

¹⁶Draza Zline, "Understanding and Evaluating a Foster Family's Capacity to Meet the Needs of an Individual Child." Social Service Review, June, 1960, p. 158.

client or a colleague. And like all ambivalences this served as a good defense against creative exploration of a difficult problem.¹⁷ Foster family care is seen by some as the only solution to the child care problem, and the attitude exists that it has to work. It really should be viewed as one of the many possible solutions to the problem, and this would allow one to be comfortable and objective in the search for foster families for the continuing increasing number of foster children.

In regard to foster parents, we have come to realize that they do not become foster parents merely as a result of acceptance by an agency as a foster home, but that the agency also plays a part. The agency, in its attempt to meet the needs of the foster child, helps the foster parents realize the full meaning of foster parenthood in the course of the child's placement with them. In other words, the adult parents involved are recognized as family first and foster second.

There is much improvement to be made in the field of Child Welfare, but the objective remains the same. Providing a foster home environment that promotes the child's healthy development (physically and emotionally) and correcting his early emotional injuries meet the objectives set forth by the Child Welfare League of America. In doing this, attempts are made to provide relationships with adults who not only do not repeat the child's earlier injurious experiences, but which successfully intervene in, and render unnecessary the repetitive use

¹⁷Lawder, op. cit.

of pathological patterns relating to adults.¹⁸ Nevertheless, the improvement of the practice of foster home selection will depend upon more effective theoretical formulations drawn from observations, experiences and research. It is realized that everything about any one foster parent will never be known. However, it is felt that a formalized way of attaining patterns of behavior and a person's understanding of child care would be favorable. This would eliminate prejudices, biases, and possibly the time element which often result in the making of hasty decisions.

The Significance of the Father and His Role
in Our Changing Society

Although the mother, as the key person in the family, has been the subject of much interest for persons interested in the family, the father has received less attention. It is true, nevertheless, that his role, too, changes as a society changes, that he has been affected also by the individuating process; and that as the mother's behavior in family life alters, so must the father's if the complementary relationship is to be maintained.¹⁹

"Because of nature, as well as societal changes, man repeatedly asks himself what his role is in the home. Nature and society assigned the role of the mother to the woman. In this role, she biologically assures the continuation of the human species. Sociologically, the mother is expected to rear her children not only

¹⁸Op. cit.

¹⁹James H. S. Bossard and Eleanor Stoker Bell, The Sociology of Child Development, 4th ed. (New York: Harper and Row Publishers, p. 212.

for survival and fitness in a physical sense but also as a member of a family, a community, a world. Most cultures have given the mother a leading role in the human drama. This, in part, accounts for man's being puzzled over his role and responsibilities in the family."²⁰

In spite of this, the father's influence on the developmental process of the male and female child is vital to the on-going socialization process.

For the male child, the father figure serves as a primary influential source for much of his learning, not only of maleness but also of concepts related to male interests and occupations. This influence is exerted not merely through interactions between himself and his child but also through his attitudes towards other family members and general behavior patterns.²¹ A child is very observant and through imitation he learns what is accepted and expected of his sex.

For the female child, a father serves as an authority on factual matters, a disciplinarian, a love object, and a model for her concept of male behavior. Fathers further accentuate sex differences in children by disapproving, however, mildly or aggressive behavior in girls while approving, even encouraging similar actions from boys.²²

Well, what happens if the father is not there? What the frequently absent father cannot adequately give a child is a model of maleness without which he is subjected to undue difficulties in learning

²⁰Samuel Liebman (ed.), Emotional Forces in the Family (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1959), p. 19.

²¹Karl C. Garrison, et. al., The Psychology of Childhood (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1967), p. 319.

²²Ibid., p. 321.

appropriate sex role behavior and as have been indicated, this developmental task is one of the most important ones in the socialization process of the foster child.²³

It is evident that the changing role of the father has affected his ability to accept and perform his role adequately. The contemporary father is being referred to as the "absentee father." He is away from home during the greater part of the day. He is at work usually not more than eight hours a day, five days a week. However, this does not substantiate the change, because over fifty years ago he worked ten to twelve hours a day, often six days a week, and yet he was not referred to as the absentee father.²⁴ It is evident that something has happened and is still happening. Among other things, it may take him one or more hours to get to and from work. The hours of departure and of arrival back home are not during the hours of the day when a child would be most active. When he arrives home, he is usually fatigued, and the woman has handled all the everyday problems of bringing up children which in earlier years everyone assumed to be the father's function.

When we actually look at the father today, we see that less and less he fits the picture that has made him the symbol of control, strength, and authority, and the natural head of the family. We cannot, however, in our efforts to remedy the situation, return to the days when the father accepted responsibilities alleged to him, but

²³Ibid., p. 319.

²⁴Ashley Montagu, "Social and Cultural Forces: Their Effects on Social Institutions and Children," Child Welfare, Vol. XLI, No. 7, September, 1962, p. 295.

just as we supplement our diets with certain vitamins to compensate for deficiencies which, if we were left to our present day taste, might develop, so we might also make conscious use of our present day knowledge of the factors in the relationship between father and child that are no longer automatically present, but which, supplied by artificial design, might still insure some measure of added happiness and stability for the children being serviced.²⁵

The Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to collect data which will reflect whether the foster father, in an approved foster home, actually fulfills his potential role as a foster parent during the period when foster children are in the home. It is also hoped that the need for a more discriminating method of selecting and evaluating foster homes will be realized.

The researcher hopes to support the following hypotheses:

1. Foster fathers, although involved during the home study, do not actively participate in providing a wholesome family life after foster children are placed.
2. Foster fathers do not get to know the foster child as intimately as the foster mother does because of frequent absences from the home, and they do not reflect in actions and activities the importance of the adult male in the home.

Review of Literature

For some time the importance of the father's role has been overshadowed by that of the mother. This is true in respect to the

²⁵Jule Eisenbud, "Father of a Family," Child Study, Vol. 12, Fall, 1943, p. 29.

community as well as to those concerned with the study of, and therapy in, the family and behavior. Quite recently, there has been a growing interest in total group interaction which has aided in a growing interest in father's role and function.²⁶ Because the care aspect of foster family care has recently come under attack, more attention is being given to the role concept of the family members, especially the father.

In 1966, a study was done by David Fanshel entitled Foster Parenthood: A Role Analysis. This study was an attempt to apply scientific principles to the methods and practices of evaluating foster parents. The researcher emphasized the importance of other studies being done in this area because foster children were frequently forced to leave one home after another, often because of the inability of the foster parents to tolerate their behavior. Therefore, the basic importance of a systematic analysis of motivations and attributes of foster parents should be obvious.²⁷

This study, which began in 1958, was conducted at a family and children's service in western Pennsylvania. The population included 102 foster families on a voluntary basis. Data were collected by four methods: interviews with foster mothers and fathers; administration of the Parental Attitude Research Instrument; and ratings by caseworkers of role performances.

The data collected revealed that the caseworkers rated the foster fathers very low when asked to what extent they felt the foster

²⁶Bossard, loc. cit., p. 230.

²⁷David Fanshel, Foster Parenthood: A Role Analysis (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1966), p. 8.

fathers identified with their role. The data further indicated that a high percentage of the foster children placed were in need of a strong father figure but this figure was not always present even in the foster family. The researcher reported that the foster fathers in this study evidently were not the prime movers in initiating applications to the agency. Pleasing their wives, rather than satisfying pressing internal needs, was an important element in the decisions of those men to become foster parents.²⁸

A study entitled, Selecting Foster Parents: The Ideal and the Reality, was done by Dr. Martin Wolins under the auspices of the Child Welfare League of America. Dr. Wolins, in this study, identifies significant criteria that could provide a helpful tool for identifying the potentially good foster home thereby facilitating the rejection of the potentially poor foster home. To discuss this briefly, the criteria were categorized under five basic dimensions: (1) the direction in which the family was headed (goal orientation); (2) the parents' self-images; (3) perception and enactment of crucial roles by the husband and wife (e.g., the roles of natural parents, foster parents, and spouse); (4) degree of family cohesion, and willingness to admit strangers (including the agency); and (5) reciprocity and flexibility.²⁹ These main headings were broken down into several subheadings. This listing or scale was constructed to provide a guideline for information obtained about foster parents and also to maintain consistency in the pattern and method of selecting foster

²⁸Ibid., p. 156.

²⁹Martin Wolins, Selecting Foster Parents (New York: Columbia University Press, 1963), p. 76.

parents. There is still a need to test and re-test this tool for validity. This study was conducted with over three thousands persons participating.

Everett Ostrovsky, in a study entitled Father to the Child, attempts to trace through the consequences of the father's absences in a number of individual cases and to gain insight on the effects of reduced father participation in family life.

The Oedipus complex, as in important stage of development for the child was frequently mentioned in this study. Ostrovsky felt that the Oedipus conflict was resolved when the child began to accept his role in the family group and realized that his father was the authority figure whose functions he could not take over but with whom he could identify and whose masculine behavior he could emulate.³⁰

Several individual examples were used to demonstrate the importance of male influence for the young child, and the results brought out the fact that in our society the child is often not adequately exposed to it in his home. The findings also showed constructive results which could be obtained when a consistent male influence existed in the life of the child.

A substantial number of studies have been done on the selection of foster parents and their capacity to meet the needs of an individual child. These studies point out the importance of a more scientific way of conducting home studies, and, how in doing home studies presently, we actually fail to get a picture of the family as individuals

³⁰ Everett S. Ostrovsky, Father to the Child (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1959), p. 143.

as well as an interacting family. Another interesting point brought out in the studies was the fact that the would be foster parent requesting a child to board or adopt is almost always a woman; whether the foster father is interested or not, the idea is proverbially born in the mother.³¹

Studies of children growing up in a household without the presence of an adult male has thrown considerable light on the basic importance of the father's role. Such youngsters, research indicates, show in increasing numbers a high degree of inferiority, confusion over what is right and what is wrong; often leading to later difficulties in life.

Literature reveals that the necessity and importance of foster parents have been realized; the demanding nature of the role of foster parents has also been acknowledged. There is still a need, however, for a more discriminating way of selecting foster families to meet the needs of the increasing number of foster children. It is becoming more evident in the literature explored that both parents are essential for the development of a healthy personality in a child. The major role of the father in the socialization process in the family has been recognized, but much research is needed to determine just how effectively the father is fulfilling his role in the family. (foster and/or natural)

Method of Procedure

The population in this study was selected by random sampling

³¹Dorothy Hutchinson, In Quest of Foster Parents (New York: Columbia University Press, 1943), p. 8.

from an alphabetically compiled list of all active foster parents with foster children in the home. At the time the study was conducted, there was 138 active foster homes with both parents and with children continuing in placement.

The primary data were collected by questionnaire which the researcher constructed and mailed to all the families involved in the study. Identifying information was obtained from the records: name, address, religion, and age.

The data collected were tabulated, placed in tables and analyzed in a way which reflected the actions of the total population of active foster fathers. Questionnaires were mailed out to sixty-nine (fifty per cent) of the active foster families with fathers present in the home. Forty of these questionnaires were returned in the self-addressed, stamped envelopes made available to the foster families.

It was evident that many of the foster families felt threatened by the questionnaire. Many of the foster parents (primarily the mothers) contacted the researcher to find out exactly how they would be involved. Several refused to complete the questionnaires even after consulting the researcher and their individual social workers.

Scope and Limitation

This study represents an analysis of data collected during a six month block field placement period at the Leake and Watts Children's Home, Inc., Yonkers, New York.

The data collected were limited to the current active foster homes with foster children placed in the homes. Adoptive homes and foster homes without children or with only one adult were not considered

for this study. All of the homes used in this study were within a 100 mile radius of the central office located in Yonkers, New York.

It is well to note that the population used in this study provides a relatively small base upon which to generalize about the involvement of foster fathers. Another limitation of this study is, of course, the fact that it reflects only the one agency involved. There is no reason to believe that the foster care program at the agency where the study was conducted is markedly different from those of other professional foster care agencies, but it would be desirable, nevertheless, to duplicate studies of this kind in a variety of foster care agencies. If other studies of this type are conducted, it should be taken into consideration that the subjects used in this study may be different in background from those subjects used in other studies. The foster fathers described in this study were predominantly native born Protestants who came from average size to large families.

Relevance to Social Work

Child Welfare has become a vital and important part of the field of Social Work Practice. In recent years tremendous strides have been made on state as well as federal levels to provide adequate care for children who must live away from their home. Surprisingly enough, we find that most states are working hard to bring their programs up to date to meet the increasing needs of children coming into foster care.

Observation and special studies by psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers in recent years have led to the conclusions that

for normal physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth, above all else the child needs to have a home where he is cherished, and where his parents express their love, devotion, and encouragement to his emerging capacities in the personal care they give him.³²

Because the social work profession concerns itself with the strengthening of persons' lives, the needs of the neglected child who can no longer remain in his home would be a vital part of that concern. In the field of social work, the family unit is seen as a launching pad for the development of any child. It should protect, strengthen and enable the child to develop his maximum capacities, mentally and physically. The family is considered by many as the primary social institution responsible for the socialization process of the child. When the natural family is unable to function adequately, a substitute family is often the only other means of meeting the child's needs.

Throughout the continuing process of dealing with people, it can be seen how the family situation influences behavior. When a social worker is faced with a person who is not able to adjust to his environment, almost immediately the family unit is brought into focus. It is felt that a person's early experiences within the family unit has a great deal of affect on his ability to cope with situations in later life.

Even with this understanding of the dynamics of the family and the importance of adult male and female figures, we fail to

³²Henrietta L. Gordon, Casework Services for Children (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1956), p. 13.

emphasize the importance of the male figure in the life of a child. The researcher hopes the study will encourage workers in Child Welfare to involve the father more in the treatment process. He should also be made aware of the role he is expected to play and encouraged to do so without fearing that he is intruding or taking over the role of another family member.

The profession of Social Work as well as the field of Child Welfare seeks to maintain the basic social institution, the family. When this is not possible, for the benefit of the child, a substitute family is selected to provide love, warmth, protection, and affection which is needed by every child coming into care. This selected family should provide what the natural family could not.

CHAPTER II

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF THE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM AT THE LEAKE AND WATTS CHILDREN'S HOME

Over a century ago, in 1831, the Leake and Watts Children's Home, Inc., was established in Westchester County, New York. Westchester County is a 453 square mile area located north of New York City and is frequently cited as one of the country's largest and richest areas of rapid suburban growth. The Leake and Watts Children's Home's primary purpose was the maintenance and education of orphans without regard to nationality or the religion of the parents. Mr. George Leake and Mr. John Watts, for whom the agency was named, provided the financial funds for the establishment of this agency.³³

When the agency opened initially, it provided full time care and treatment for dependent and neglected children of New York City and vicinity, including orphans. The foster care program had not been established at that time.

Like other earlier child care agencies, group care was the primary service offered. Children were placed in large groups under a structured setting and almost always they would show some retardation of development. It was evident, in these large groups, that the emotional needs of the children were not being met and because they

³³Kingland Adams Coffyn, "Orphans of a Century," p. 15.

did not receive enough individual love and affection, their personalities and intelligence suffered greatly. As described by Julia Deming, they were like thin straggling trees too close together in a forest. There was not enough sunshine of love or of interest and individual attention to reach their best development.³⁴

I cannot help but believe that the decision to consider foster care for some children resulted from the recognition of the different needs of neglected children and from the strong existing belief in the value of the family life for every child who is able to accept and benefit from it. As a result of this, in 1914-1915, the "foster home" idea was initially introduced. The plan included boarding nearly all the children at the agency in selected foster homes. However, the children placed only remained a year and the attempt was considered unsuccessful. It is worthwhile to mention that this agency was among the first to venture into the area of foster family care.

Again, in 1926 the possibility of utilizing foster homes was considered. However, it was not until the Social Service Department was established in 1944 that foster home care once more became a reality. Year after year the foster home care program was expanded to include more children and subsequently more foster homes were sought. In 1954, 250 children were being cared for in this program with foster homes located within a hundred mile radius of the agency. As the program was expanded, the ever increasing need for additional foster homes was magnified.

³⁴Julia Deming, "Foster Home and Group Placement," American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, Vol. 10, 1940, p. 586.

Presently, Leake and Watts operates as a non-sectarian child caring agency, providing four major services for neglected and emotionally distrubed children: institutional or the cottage care program; foster care; the adoption and after care program.

The cottage care program is operated for the child who cannot for various reasons be considered for foster home care. A school is located on grounds to provide educational instructions for those children with particular problems in relation to school. The foster care program, which this agency provides, encompasses approximately 300 children in foster homes of all ages, from infancy through adolescence. The after care program provides social services for the girl or boy who leaves the care and treatment of the agency to return to a rehabilitated home in an attempt to help the child adjust to the situation.³⁵ Of course there is the adoption program where a child in need of a permanent home is referred to the agency and placed in a carefully selected adoptive home.

This agency began as one providing group treatment for neglected children. In its 135 years of existence, it has expanded its physical facilities as well as services offered. Changes have occurred and are continuing to occur in relation to the individual needs of the children serviced and the needs of the community serviced.

³⁵"Leake and Watts Children's Home in Yonkers Mark 130 Years," The New York Times, December 3, 1961.

CHAPTER III

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

The sample population used in this study consisted of sixty-nine foster families with both adult parents in the home. However, only forty of the sixty-nine families contacted responded. It was concluded, after contacts with several of the families that the questionnaire was considered to some as a threat. In some instances, even after assuring the families that their names would not be used, the questionnaires were not returned. It was interesting to note that all of the requests for further information and clarification were made by the wives of the foster fathers included in the study.

The sample used included foster families in both racial groups (Negro and white), and of several religious groups. Out of the families who responded, there were forty Protestant families, among which were three Episcopalians, three Seventh-Day Adventists, and one Penecostal family.

The remaining thirty-three families were of unknown Protestant denominations.

To get an idea of the age distribution and number of natural and foster children involved, the following two tables were constructed.

As is shown in Table 1, there are forty-five natural children in the forty foster homes studied. The four grandchildren were not included in the table because names and ages were not given. There was

also one adopted school age child included in the table. The youngest child in this group was four months; the oldest being thirty-four years of age. The table shows that the majority of the children are in their teens and are attending school. The ones included between the age range of twenty to thirty-four years, are, for the most part, employed and self-supporting.

TABLE 1
AGE DISTRIBUTION OF NATURAL CHILDREN

Age Range Years	No. of Children
0-4	3
5-9	5
10-14	9
15-19	22
20-24	3
25-29	2
30-34	1
Total	45

*Grandchildren not included: ages not given.

In the table that follows, Table 2, we see that there were ninety-seven foster children continuing in placement in the forty families included in this study. The youngest child in this group was nineteen months of age; the oldest being seventeen years. As reflected in the table, the greatest number of children fall between the age range of zero to nine years of age. This is significant, because it is during these years of a child's life that he learns to give, to take, to react to situations appropriately, and to refrain from reacting when inappropriate. This is also during the developmental stage when a child experiences and resolves feelings towards the adult

figures (male and female) within the home. If these feelings are not experienced and resolved, the child will, more than likely, have difficulty establishing relationships with others in his environment.

TABLE 2
AGE DISTRIBUTION OF FOSTER CHILDREN

Age Range Years	No. of Children
0-4	14
5-9	39
10-14	37
15-19	7
Total	97

For most of the children in placement, this is a vital period in their stage of development and the presence of a strong male figure is needed. This is the stage when a child seeks to identify and accept his role as he sees it performed by others like himself.

To get an idea of what the foster father population looks like in regard to age distribution, the following table was devised.

The fathers studied ranged in age from thirty-five years to seventy-nine years of age. It is interesting to note that fifty-five per cent of these fathers were over fifty years of age and there were two over seventy years of age. The median age was found to be 52.5 years.

For most of these families, foster care was not considered at an early age, and for many it was considered after natural children in the home reached adulthood. There were grandchildren in two of these homes; the homes of the two fathers between seventy-five and

seventy-nine years of age. For many of these fathers, their age, along with employment obligations, would hinder them from becoming actively involved in activities a young child would enjoy.

TABLE 3
DISTRIBUTION OF FOSTER FATHERS BY AGE

Age Range	No. of Foster Fathers	Percentage
35-39	3	7.5
40-44	5	12.5
45-49	10	25.0
50-54	9	22.5
55-59	5	12.5
60-64	4	10.0
65-69	2	5.0
70-74
75-79	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

*Median age: 52.5.

As reflected in the next table (Table 4), the foster fathers were engaged in varied occupations requiring varied skills. However, the number of fathers in a skilled trade is small compared to those in service work positions, or positions which do not require any special skills. Two of the fathers' occupations varied and no specific position was given. There is an even smaller number of white collar or professional workers in this group. This could reflect somewhat on the

educational background and training of the foster fathers in this study.

TABLE 4
DISTRIBUTION OF FOSTER FATHERS
BY OCCUPATIONS

Occupations	No. of Fathers
Clerk (railroad, mail)	3
Manager	2
Driver (truck, taxi)	3
Construction worker	2
Painter	2
Service worker (porter, waiter, etc.)	18
Fireman	1
Mechanic	1
Dental technician	1
Minister	1
Driller	1
Brick mason	1
Retired	2
Varied	2
Total	40

The following table revealed that nineteen of the foster fathers had been employed at the same job for more than ten years. The remaining sixteen, who were employed, had been at their present places of employment for less than ten years. This does not include the two persons who are retired.

For those who have been working more than ten years, it can be assumed that they are very well established in their present job situation and that their patterns of employment involvement was established before children were placed and in most instances this same pattern would continue following placement.

TABLE 5
DISTRIBUTION OF FOSTER FATHERS BY
STABILITY OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT

Years of Employment	No. of Foster Fathers	Percentage
Less than 1 yr.	5	12.5
1-4	8	20.0
5-9	4	10.0
10-14	9	22.5
15-19	5	12.5
20-24	4	10.0
More than 25 yrs.	3	7.5
Retired	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 6 represents the breakdown of the number of days per week worked by the foster fathers. At the time of this study seventy per cent of the fathers were working the average eight hour, five day work week. Of further interest is the finding that five of the foster fathers worked on Sundays and seven worked on Saturdays. In several instances, the same father worked on both Saturdays and Sundays. As also reflected in Table 6, six per cent of the fathers were working less than five days a week. These, however, were the fathers who worked at night and on weekend days.

TABLE 6
NUMBER OF DAYS OF THE WEEK FOSTER
FATHERS ARE EMPLOYED

No. of Days	No. of Foster Fathers	Percentage
Less than 4	1	2.5
4 days	1	2.5
5 days	28	70.0
6 days	5	12.5
7 days	1	2.5
Retired	2	5.0
Varied	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

The number of hours worked per day also varied as shown in Table 7. Nevertheless, 72.5 per cent of the foster fathers studied worked between six and eight hours a day. Eleven per cent worked more than eight hours per day. Of course, there were two fathers who were retired and three whose hours varied. It should be pointed out that although most of the fathers worked during the day, about one out of every ten worked during the night. Therefore, the daylight hours were used for resting.

Traveling for most of these foster fathers took up a considerable amount of time. Of course, this would depend on the distance traveled and the choice of transportation: car, bus, subway, etc.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF HOURS FOSTER FATHERS WORK PER DAY

Hrs. Per Day	No. of Foster Fathers	Percentage
6-8	29	72.5
9-11	6	15.0
Retired	2	5.0
Varied	3	7.5
Total	40	100.0

Only eleven per cent of the foster fathers traveled less than one mile to and from work, and one foster father traveled as much as twenty miles to and from work daily. As much as 57.5 per cent of the foster fathers had to travel between five and twenty-four miles two times per day. Travel was not required for eight per cent and five per cent travel time varied.

As for the time spent traveling to and from work, it ranged from less than thirty minutes to an hour and thirty minutes. For sixty-three per cent, it took from thirty minutes to an hour and thirty minutes to get to and from work. Of course, the time varied with traveling conditions. The greater percentage of the fathers had to leave home as early as 6:30 A.M. to get to work and arrived home as late as 8:30 P.M. We are referring to those fathers working five days per week, during the daylight hours. It is evident that a considerable amount of time is spent getting to and from

work and that most of the fathers leave home before breakfast and arrive home after the dinner hour.

TABLE 8
DISTANCE TRAVELED BY FOSTER FATHERS
TO AND FROM PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

No. of Miles	No. of Foster Fathers	Percentage
Less than 1	4	10.0
1-4	8	20.0
5-9	4	10.0
10-14	14	35.0
15-19	4	10.0
20-24	1	2.5
Travel not required	3	7.5
Travel varied	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

TABLE 9
TIME ALLOTTED FOR TRAVELING TO AND FROM
PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

Time Schedule	No. of Foster Fathers	Percentage
Less than 30 min.	9	22.5
30-44	11	27.5
45-59	5	12.5
1-hr. to 1-hr. 29 min	10	25.0
Travel not required	3	7.5
Time varied	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

The foster fathers were asked to list activities they were involved in with their foster children in the home in the rank and order of importance to the developmental stage of the child. Furthermore, they were asked to mention activities involved in related to agency responsibility. The following table reflects the answers given.

TABLE 10

ACTIVITIES ENGAGED IN AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO
FOSTER CHILDREN AND AGENCY AS MENTIONED BY FOSTER FATHERS

Activities & Responsibilities	Mentioned by Foster Fathers Percentage	Not Mentioned by Foster Fathers Percentage
Acting as teachers, advisor	58	42
Providing adult male figure	24	76
Disciplining children	22	78
Engaged in sports, baseball, biking, movies	30	70
Giving of love & affection to children & support to wife	57	43
Involvement in & attendance of PTA; t school activities	35	65
Church attendance	65	35
Eating dinner daily with family	37	63
Attendance of pro- spective foster parent meeting	63	37

As evident by answers given, the foster fathers were not available to engage in sport activities with the foster children in

the home, or they did not feel it was important. If we reflect back to the table showing the age distribution of the foster children, we will see that the greater percentage of the children are at a very active age and need this type of involvement.

Disciplining of children was mentioned by twenty-two per cent and not mentioned by seventy-eight per cent. It is safe to conclude that the fathers perceived this as primarily the responsibility of the mother in the home. The fathers, however, responded more positively towards being an advisor, and teacher to the children in their home. Fifty-eight per cent mentioned it as an activity they were involved in and forty-two did not mention it.

A greater percentage of the fathers listed the giving of love and affection as an activity of involvement with the foster children. However, there is not a significant difference between the number who mentioned it and the number who did not mention it.

The percentage of fathers who listed the attendance of the Prospective Foster Parents Meeting was significant in relation to the percentage who did not mention it. The researcher feels, however, that for many of the fathers, attendance was encouraged and influenced greatly by the wife.

Although there were a great number of school age children in the foster care group as well as the natural children group, only thirty-five per cent of the foster fathers mentioned their attendance at Parent Teachers Association meetings or other special school programs in which the children were involved. This responsibility also seems to have been delegated to the foster mother.

There appears to be a great deal of emphasis by the agency as well as the foster families, on religion and the need for continuing religious education. Sixty-five per cent of the fathers mentioned church attendance as an activity they were involved in with their children. This included the attendance of youth fellowship and other youth programs.

Dinner time is considered as a sacred time, because for many families it is the only time they have together. Only twenty-seven per cent mentioned it as an activity of involvement with their children; the other sixty-three failed to mention it.

The foster fathers did not view providing an adult male figure as an important responsibility delegated to the male figure in the home. This is reflected in that only thirty per cent of the fathers mentioned it while seventy per cent did not mention it.

This brings up a very important question. The persons working in Child Welfare are aware of the needs of the foster child but do the foster parents understand the different phases of development and the important role each adult parent plays in this process? We would agree that most of the foster parents are warm, loving and affectionate parents, but love is not enough. I am sure many of the natural parents loved and continued to love their children even following placement, but it was not enough to provide an atmosphere conducive for the maximum physical and emotional growth of the child involved.

Table 10 shows that what these foster fathers see as being important or what they actually have time to involve themselves in, does not place emphasis on the major role of the father figure which is to provide an adult male image for the child.

In selecting foster homes, we also like to think that the parents have ample time to be involved in other community activities outside of employment and agency obligations. Hopefully, community involvement would expand and enrichen the placement experience for the child.

To get an idea of the participation of foster fathers in activities in the community, they were asked to list organizations they were a member of and offices held, if any.

TABLE 11

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OUTSIDE OF EMPLOYMENT
AND AGENCY OBLIGATIONS AS LISTED BY FOSTER FATHERS

Activities	No. of Foster Fathers
Church (choir, boards, etc.)	15
Fraternal organ. Masons; Elks, etc.	5
Parent Teachers Association	2
Clubs, social, civic & political	9

As reflected in the table above, five of the fathers listed fraternal organizations, including the Masons, and the Elks. In almost every instance where organizations were mentioned, the church was the primary one although most of the fathers did not hold any specific office. Only two of the fathers listed the Parent Teachers

Association and one of the two held an office. Nine foster fathers listed social clubs of which they were members. It is important to point out that some fathers were members of an organization in each of the categories given. Therefore, each number digit does not represent a different individual. The table on the previous page reflects a very small proportion of the total population studied.

The foster fathers, it can be concluded, do not have time to be actively involved in activities outside of the home, employment and agency obligations.

The foster fathers who were the subjects of this research have been described with respect to certain personal characteristics; employment involvement and some of their orientation to their role as foster fathers. The chapter which will follow will briefly summarize the study and reflect final perspectives and implications.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

This study has demonstrated the lack of involvement on the part of the foster father in the lives of foster children placed in the home. It has also exposed the problems posed by the fact that in our society the need for greater male influence has not been realized. Especially in an instance where foster children are involved, any chance for a foster child to have a prolonged relationship with a male adult relative, teacher, or family friend should be exploited.³⁶

As reflected in this study, the foster father is not actually aware of his role and responsibilities as a foster father. He continues to remain in the background in many areas where his presence and influence should be emphatically felt. There seems to be a lack of understanding on the part of the foster father in regard to the importance of the adult male in the home. Also, there was limited participation, by the fathers, in activities outside of agency and employment obligations. The data obtained supported the researcher's belief that the father, more often than not, accepts a passive role, allowing the female to accept many of the responsibilities once alleged to him. It is also safe to project that the foster fathers

³⁶Everett S. Ostrovsky, Father to the Child (New York: G. P. Putnam's Son, 1959), p. 151.

in this study did not know the foster children in their homes as intimately of involvement of the fathers in activities with the child and the family which would facilitate such a relationship. He did provide, it appears, protection and financial stability for the foster family, but this is not enough.

Much of the lack of participation can be blamed on the changing role of the family and the male figure within it. It is evident that many of the responsibilities once fulfilled by the male have been delegated to the female figure in the family or other social institutions outside of the home. The danger of this change to the father figure himself and to the foster child is multi-fold.

"We have learned, through experience, that today's child in foster care is a damaged child. He is a child without parental protection and often without parental love. Were these lacks not so great, he would remain in his own home, for we have learned that this is best."³⁷ In attempts to provide for this child, we seek to avoid repetition of previous family situations which are usually disorganized. We attempt to provide an adequate family constellation including both adult parents because it is felt that this is essential for the maximum emotional and physical growth of the foster child in placement.

As a social worker with the responsibility of providing substitute parental care for a child unable to remain in his own

³⁷Rebecca Smith, "Spiritual, Ethical and Moral Values for Children in Foster Care," Child Welfare, Vol. XL, No. 1, January, 1961, p. 20.

in this study did not know the foster children in their homes as intimately as their wives, This was reflected in the lack of involvement of the fathers in activities with the child and the family which would facilitate such a relationship. He did provide, it appears, protection and financial stability for the foster family, but this is not enough.

Much of the lack of participation can be blamed on the changing role of the family and the male figure within it. It is evident that many of the responsibilities once fulfilled by the male have been delegated to the female figure in the family or other social institutions outside of the home. The danger of this change to the father figure himself and to the foster child is multi-fold.

"We have learned, through experience, that today's child in foster care is a damaged child. He is a child without parental protection and often without parental love. Were these lacks not so great, he would remain in his own home, for we have learned that this is best."³⁷ In attempts to provide for this child, we seek to avoid repetition of previous family situations which are usually disorganized. We attempt to provide an adequate family constellation including both adult parents because it is felt that this is essential for the maximum emotional and physical growth of the foster child in placement.

As a social worker with the responsibility of providing substitute parental care for a child unable to remain in his own home,

³⁷Rebecca Smith, "Spiritual, Ethical and Moral Values for Children in Foster Care," Child Welfare, Vol. XL, No. 1, January, 1961, p. 20.

there is still much to be desired. Emphasis is placed on the importance of not repeating similar family situations and the importance of the presence of both parents in the home. To date, however, we have not come up with a discriminating way of determining whether the homes selected are best for the children placed. This study points up, hopefully, the need for immediate attention in this area of Child Welfare services.

In the search for foster homes, it has been supported that many of the homes are dominated by the female personality. Even Child Welfare workers seem to accept this as reality and, more often than not, view the father as a passive retiring person who feels most comfortable letting his wife make many of the family decisions. Because this is felt to be prevalent in most foster homes, how this affect the psychosocial development of the child placed should also be a concern.

Although the thesis that foster fathers are not really fulfilling their role as the adult male in the foster family has been supported, it could also be true that very little is known about the men who are foster fathers, and this unflattering characterization should stimulate more systematic study in this area.

Conclusions and Implications

For a person who has previously been associated with research of this type, he would probably make his final appraisal with mixed feelings.

On one hand, there has to be the recognition that this is only the beginning in the exploratory search for an understanding

of foster parents as people occupying a complex role. Simultaneously, there is still a sign of hope, because it is hoped that the challenge posed to the Social Work Profession, Child Welfare more specifically, will be accepted and an increasing amount of research will be done in the area of foster care.

There is a need to gain a more complete understanding of the motivations and role behavior of both foster parents than is apparent in this study and others done in recent years. This, it is felt, can be achieved, because for the most part, the subjects in this study were cooperative.

The social worker who is the home finder and works with the foster parents represents still another challenge to social work research. Over the years, the social worker has gained a great deal of insight into the needs of the neglected child. An increase in understanding was one of the main reasons for the transition from group care for all neglected children to individual care for many. In spite of all of these advances, one still gets the impression that much of the work the social worker is involved in with the foster parent is trial-and-error and lacks a practical scientific base. The presence of the scientific base will provide selected criteria by which services offered can be evaluated.

The present study indicates the need for additional studies which will increase the understanding of the foster parents' role and will increase the social worker's awareness of his role as a supportive and educational resource to the foster parents and the foster child. All of this, hopefully, will increase the meaningfulness of foster care services offered to the child in need of a home.

APPENDIX

December 8, 1966

Mr. and Mrs. _____

Dear Mr. and Mrs. _____:

I have been given permission to conduct a research project using a number of the current active foster families at the Leake and Watts Children's Home. Your family is among this selected population.

The questionnaire enclosed is to be filled out and returned by the foster father in the foster home. It is important that the questionnaire be completed and returned immediately because of the limited amount of time the researcher has to conduct this research project. The information obtained will be used for research purposes only.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. A stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. For further information, please contact me at Y03-5220.

Very truly yours,

(Miss) M. Frances Johnson

mfj

Enclosures

QUESTIONNAIRE

Family's Surname _____ Religion _____

Husband's Age _____ Wife's Age _____

1. Number of natural children in the home. _____

Name	Age	Occupation
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

2. Number of foster children in the home. _____

Name	Age	Occupation
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Are you presently employed? Yes _____ No _____. If yes,
where are you employed? _____.

4. What is your occupation? (Type of job) _____.

5. How long have you been employed at this job? _____.

6. What days and hours do you work? _____.

7. What time do you leave for work and how long does it
take you to get there? _____.

8. Do you travel to work? Yes _____ No _____. If yes, how far do you travel? _____
9. How do you travel to work? Bus _____; subway _____; commuters train _____; car _____ other ____.
10. How long does it take you to get to work? _____.
11. What time do you get home in the afternoon? _____.
12. Please list activities engaged in and your responsibilities to foster child and the agency in rank of their importance as you view them. List as many as you desire:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.
13. Are you presently a member of hold office in any community organizations? (church, school, fraternal organizations, clubs, etc.)

Name of Organization

Office Held

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

- Barclay, Dorothy. Understanding the City Child. New York: Franklin Watts, Inc., 1959.
- Bossard, James H. S., and Bell, Eleanor Stoker. The Sociology of Child Development. 4th ed. New York: Harper and Row Publishers, 1966.
- Bowlby, John. Maternal Care and Mental Health. Geneva: World Health Organization, 1952.
- Cavan, Ruth Shonie. Marriage and Family in the Modern World. 2d ed. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1960.
- Charnley, Jean. The Art of Child Placement. Virginia: William Byrd Press, Inc., 1955.
- Doyle, Kathleen Cassidy. Homes for Foster Children. New York: Public Affairs Committee, 1955.
- English, Spurgeon, and Foster, Constance. Father's are Parents Too. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1951.
- Fanshel, David. Foster Parenthood: A Role Analysis. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1966.
- Garrison, Karl S., et al. The Psychology of Childhood. New York: Charles Scribner's Son, 1967.
- Glickman, Esther. Child Placement Through Clinically Oriented Casework. New York: Columbia University Press, 1957.
- Gordon, Henrietta L. Casework Services for Children. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1956.
- Horton, Paul B., and Hunt, Chester L. Sociology. New York: McGraw Hill Book Company, 1964.
- Hutchinson, Dorothy. In Quest of Foster Parents. New York: Columbia University Press, 1943.

- Liebman, Samuel (ed.) Emotional Forces in the Family. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1959.
- Maas, Henry S. Children in Need of Parents. New York: Columbia University Press, 1959.
- Ostrovsky, Everett S. Father to the Child. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1959.
- Standards for Foster Family Care Service. New York: Child Welfare League of America, Inc., 1959.
- The Significance of the Father. New York: Family Service Association of America, 1959.
- Weinstein, Eugene A. The Self-Image of the Foster Child. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1960.

Articles

- Babcock, Charlotte G. "Some Psychodynamic Factors in Foster Parenthood," Child Welfare, Vol. XLIV, No. 10 (December, 1965) part II, 570-577.
- Barnes, Milford E. "The Concept of Parental Force," Child Welfare, Vol. XLVI, No. 2 (February, 1967), 89-90.
- Deming, Julia. "Foster Home and Group Placement," American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, Vol. 10 (1940), 586-594.
- "Design of a Model of Healthy Family Relationships as a Basis for Evaluative Research," Social Service Review, Vol. 34, No. 3 (December, 1957), 369-376.
- Diggs, Mary Huff. "Sociological Implications of Long-Term Foster Care," Child Welfare, Vol. XL, No. 9 (November, 1961), 23-26.
- Eisenbud, Jule. "The Father of a Family," Child Study, Vol. 12 (Fall, 1943), 3-5.
- Hoffman, L. W. "Father's Role in the Family and the Child's Peer Adjustment," Marriage and the Family Living, Vol. 24 (February, 1962), 84-85.
- Klineberg, O. "The Father's Role Now and in the Past," Child Study Association of America, Vol. 34, No. 3 (Summer, 1957), 12-18.

- Kline, Draza. "Understanding and Evaluating a Foster Family's Capacity to Meet the Needs of an Individual Child," Social Service Review, Vol. 34 (June, 1960), 149-161.
- Laeder, Elizabeth A. "Toward a More Scientific Understanding of Foster Family Care," Child Welfare, Vol. XLIII, No. 2 (February, 1964), 57-63.
- "Leake and Watts Children's Home in Yonkers Mark 130 Years,:" The New York Times, December 3, 1961.
- Low, Seth. "Foster Care of Children: Major National Trends and Prospects," Welfare in Review, Vol. 4, No. 8 (October, 1966), 12-22.
- McCoy, J. "Application of the Role Concept to Foster Parenthood," Social Casework, Vol. 43 (May, 1962), 252-256.
- Montagu, Ashley. "Social and Cultural Forces: Their Effects on Social Institutions and Children," Child Welfare, Vol. XLI, No. 7 (September, 1962), 291-296.
- Pratt, Catherine. "Assembled Families," Child Welfare, Vol. XLVI, No. 2 (February, 1967), 94-99.
- Tasch, R. J. "The Role of the Father in the Family," Journal of Experimental Education, No. 20 (1952), 319-362.
- "Upper New York in Other Days," The Home News, Sunday, May 20, 1934.
- "When to Use a Child Caring Institution," Social Service Outlook, Vol. 1, No. 4 (September, 1966), 16.

Unpublished Material

- "Marching to a Brighter Future," 130th Anniversary Pamphlet.
Coffyn, Kingland Adams, "Orphans of a Century,"
(Pamphlet)